



Interim Guidance: Instructional Changes for Medication Administration Skills Competency during the COVID-19 Pandemic

July 2020	
Purpose	To minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission during Medication Administration Skills Competency Training and Evaluation (test-out)
General Information	All Child Care Nurse Consultants (CCNC) who provide the Medication Administration Skills Competency Training and Evaluation (Initial and Reassessment) are responsible to follow the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Iowa Department Public Health (IDPH) and their employing agency guidance as it relates to actions around COVID-19. The CCNC should evaluate the risk of disease transmission in the community before organizing and providing face-to-face training events and take necessary precautions to avoid transmission.
Recommendations	<p>Healthy Child Care Iowa (HCCI) encourages CCNCs to present Medication Administration Skills Competency training and evaluation as appropriate to your local area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow IDPH/Local Public Health guidance concerning closures and public gatherings. • Follow CCNC agency guidance concerning return to work policies, travel, on-site visits and trainings. <p><u>For face-to-face training and skills evaluation (Test-Out) instructor and participants should:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend only if they are well and have not been in close contact with a person ill with COVID-19 symptoms within the past 14 days. • Determine they should attend public gatherings. Older adults and people who have severe underlying medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing serious complications from COVID-19 illness and should avoid group settings. • Practice good hand hygiene, including handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol upon entry into training location.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instructor should limit class size to 8 participants to ensure that each participant is at one practi-medication station and participants are not paired up. CCNCs may consider options for partnering with another local CCNC having more than one Medication Administration Test-Out Kit to increase class size. • At this time, instructor should encourage large centers to designate key staff (lead teachers and 1-2 backup staff) assigned to provide medications for children rather than all staff members taking the course. • Social distancing of 6 feet should be maintained. Tables and chairs should be arranged to ensure social distancing. • Wearing cloth face coverings should be encouraged. • Participants shall wear gloves during the hands-on portion of training and skills evaluation. • Instructor shall clean and disinfect all Medication Administration Test-Out Kit items after use at each location. • Instructor shall clean and disinfect all surfaces used at the training location (as required by training location).
<p>Medication Administration Test-Out Kit and Supplies</p>	<p>CCNCs are required to do the following prior to training and skills evaluation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use clear packing tape to cover all medication labels so that the outside of practi-medication containers are able to be cleaned and disinfected. If you need new labels contact Heidi Hotvedt. • Obtain latex-free gloves for all participants to use during training and skills evaluation. • Obtain cleaning and disinfecting products for use during and after training and skills evaluation. Wipes are preferable. Please refer to the CDC list of approved disinfectants for use against COVID-19. • Obtain pens and print enough handouts for each participant to ensure no sharing.
<p>Alternative Virtual Training and Test-Out Options</p>	<p>HCCI encourages CCNCs to consider offering alternative methods of presenting training content as appropriate to your local area. CCNCs may use whichever virtual training platform is available through their</p>

	<p>agency or collaborative partnerships. CCNCs must work with their training organization for scheduling and posting on the I-PoWeR Iowa's Early Childhood and School Age Professional Workforce Registry</p> <p><u>Option 1 (ALL types of providers)</u> Power Point and live demonstration of each of the eight medications by CCNC instructor using a virtual platform.</p> <p>Evaluation Test-Out Option 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arranged individually for later date (within 30 days). • CCNC will drop off the Medication Administration Test-Out Kit prior to scheduled evaluation (same day or day before) to allow participant(s) to practice hands-on portion. • One-on-one on-site or alternative location. <p><u>Option 2 (centers/preschools with multiple staff)</u> Power Point portion provided by CCNC instructor using virtual platform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participants complete hands-on portion of the medication training at their location. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CCNC will drop off the Medication Administration Test-Out Kit prior to the scheduled virtual training. ○ Stations set up (at least 6 feet apart) according to how many people on location so each person would demonstrate to the group 1 (or more) medications. ○ CCNC will pick up the Medication Administration Test-Out Kit after the training. <p>Evaluation Test-Out Option 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled for later date (within 30 days) on-site or alternative location. • 1-2 participants at a time may Test-Out using stations (clean/disinfect between participants)
<p>Timeframe for Additional Precautions</p>	<p>These additional precautions should be put into practice until COVID-19 restrictions are no longer in place and HCCI has notified CCNCs that additional precautions are lifted.</p>